

**CITY OF GAHANNA  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – September 1, 2010**

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Laurel Naegele called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, August 4, 2010, at 6:58 pm at Gahanna City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

Cynthia Franzmann  
Luke Messinger  
Eric Miller  
Laurel Naegele  
Jan Ross  
Jill Schuler  
Vincent Tremante

In attendance from the City were Troy Euton, Deputy Director Department of Parks & Recreation and Brandi Braun, Assistant City Administrator.

**SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBER**

At this time, Brandi Braun administered the oath of office to Luke Messinger.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Tremante made a **MOTION** to approve the August 4, 2010 meeting minutes; seconded by Messinger. **On roll call vote:** Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Ross, Yes, Schuler, Yes, Tremante, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**HEARING OF VISITORS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Family Fun Festival**

Euton shared that the Family Fun Festival revenue raised was approximately \$2,200; the fee for the lifeguards was approximately \$608, with the other expenses incurred the net is around \$875. There were many good comments from new patrons of the pool. Attendees seemed to enjoy the bands.

Miller would have liked to see more people at the Awards presentation. Possibly the board needs to skip the awards next year and re-think the process.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Rice Ave/Foxwood naming rights**

Euton stated Tony Collins, Director, Department of Parks & Recreation, would like to know what the Board thinks about naming rights to Gahanna parks. There have been discussions that the Rice Ave/Foxwood Park needs to be officially named and naming rights for a fee. What is a naming right worth?

Messinger asked if there are corporate named parks in the state. Euton stated there is at least one in Cincinnati, Battelle in Columbus, not sure of others. It might not be precedent setting in

the state. Euton stated that staff has been discussing more privatized situations that would provide funding. Schuler stated that in these difficult times she hesitates on grasping for straws; everyone is hit with advertising all the time; she would like it to be named a park without a brand or company name.

Messinger stated that the discussion needs to happen, with a lot of time for forward thinking. Distinctions should be made between someone that is giving to the future of the park as opposed to recognition of service. Usually it (naming rights) is reserved to a specific facility (ie, shelter house). A policy or program needs to be initiated and guidelines set for naming rights if a donor or sponsor can be secured.

Tremante wanted to know if staff identified potential parks for naming rights. Euton stated staff has not discussed specific parks yet. Franzmann is not opposed to naming rights, but at what amount of money. She likes the idea of naming a shelter house. Messinger does not want to see active advertised solicitation. Tremante wanted to know why the discussion of Rice Ave/Foxwood Park came up. Euton stated that a resident suggested naming the park. Currently the park does not have a name. The resident suggested naming it "Unity Park", since it brought two neighborhoods together. The discussions began on how to name it, contest submission, selling naming rights, etc. Tremante said that possibly the discussion needs to go back to the neighborhood for ideas.

Miller and Schuler do not like the idea of selling parks to a corporation for naming rights. Miller doesn't have a problem with the park or facility being named after a community member.

Euton said that he will take the information discussed back to staff.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Messinger stated that "Heavy Table" article from Minneapolis mentioned OHEC in the article "Should you find yourself in Columbus Ohio". The article can be found on the internet.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Euton shared the Director's Report highlighting the past month in each division.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Aquatics Advisory Committee**

Nothing at this time

### **BAC**

Naegele stated there was an article regarding the Clean Ohio Trail Grant and the Recreational Trails Program Grant which were awarded to Gahanna to build the Big Walnut Trail sections 1 and 2. Section 1 starts at the Morse Road bridge of the Big Walnut Creek west of Cherrybottom Road and goes down along the creek all the way down around Academy Park. It connects to the existing trail at Academy Park and goes a few hundred yards. Section 2 connects at Academy Park around the hill to Woodside Green Park.

Euton stated that the city is applying for a MORPC Attributable Transportation Grant for Section 8 of the trail. The grant funding will not be available until 2014.

Naegele is going to work with the Foundation on adopt a foot/mile program for trails and sharrows. The group will approach the Foundation with a program.

### **DPAC**

The next meeting is September 23, 2010 at 6pm at City Hall.

## **NRAC**

Messinger stated the committee is on call as needed.

## **MEMBERS COMMENTS**

### **Parks & Recreation Foundation**

Franzmann stated the Family Fun Festival was successful. The Foundation Board discussed a different type of Gala event; possibly a Friday at 5pm. There will be further discussions at the next meeting.

### **Veterans Memorial Committee**

Nothing at this time

### **School Board Report**

Schuler stated the Board continues to work on the levy. The superintendent is speaking to community groups regarding the levy. The Board is looking at putting together a committee to look at pay to play athletic programs at the schools. Additional information and video clips are on the Gahanna Jefferson Public Schools web site.

### **Citizen Financial Advisory Committee**

Ross stated that the committee met last week, the Development staff discussed everything but Creekside and Central Park. At the next meeting Development staff and the Mayor will discuss Creekside and Central Park. To date all the meetings have been educational and informational gathering meetings. The hope is to be able to make recommendations by the November time frame.

Tremante would like to have a discussion regarding the fee structure on the next agenda.

Naegele thanked the Parks & Recreation staff for all the hard work over the summer.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Board at this time, Schuler made a **MOTION** to adjourn; seconded by Naegele.

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurel Naegele, Chair